

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention relates to splicing and especially to alternative RNA splicing which is involved in the production of protein isoforms with distinct activities. More specifically, the present invention relates to methods for modulating alternative splicing, and for identifying alternatively spliced units in genes. The present invention also concerns methods for modulating the ratio of alternatively spliced isoforms relative to each other and to normalize the alternative splicing actions of a splicing extract. The invention also relates to kits for normalizing and/or modulating splicing and/or alternative splicing of transcripts. More particularly the invention relates to a method to normalize a splicing and/or alternative splicing activity of an extract comprising an addition thereto of an effective amount of a polar aprotic solvent, whereby the effective amount normalizes splicing and/or alternative splicing as compared to an untreated extract. Examples of polar aprotic solvents of the invention include DMSO, DMF, formamide, HMPA, N-methylformamide, nitromethane, acetone, and acetonitrile.

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